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Half of women feel unsafe on late-night OC Transpo

This is according to a survey where less than 30 per cent of men felt the same way

PAGE 3

Redford resigns

Scandal-plagued Alberta premier says she gave her 'heart and soul' to province

PAGE 10

LADY PIGGY MEETS MISS GAGA ... NO, WAIT!

CELEBRITY CAMEOS ABOUND IN PUPPET FRANCHISE'S LATEST MOVIE, MUPPETS MOST WANTED

PAGE 19



NO HAIR BANDS

LIVE 88.5fm



Valley Mastiff Rescue owner France Turcotte cuddles one of her dogs at her west Quebec shelter.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

Fake bomb, threats force dog shelter out of town

Wakefield, Que.

Neighbours say they feel unsafe, bylaws may not allow shelter



TREVOR GREENWAY
trevor.greenway@metronews.ca

The owner of a dog rescue shelter in west Quebec plans to relocate to Ontario after years of harassment, including death threats and a fake bomb someone planted on her property.

She's also now facing a possible conflict with her municipality over bylaws.

France Turcotte of Valley Mastiff Rescue north of Wakefield says she has been in a battle with neighbours since she opened four years ago.

She has rescued 90 dogs from severe abuse — including pups from the infamous Shawville puppy mill in 2012. Now, Turcotte has closed her doors as she fears for the safety of her dogs and volunteers.

"I can't operate here anymore. My volunteers are being threatened left and right. The dogs are being threatened," she told Metro Wednesday.

It started four years ago

Quoted

"I can't operate here anymore. My volunteers are being threatened left and right. The dogs are being threatened."

France Turcotte, Valley Mastiff Rescue owner

with a package that showed up on the corner of her driveway. Thinking it a dog food donation, Turcotte opened it, but found a clock that had been made to look like it was wired to an explosive. Police were called and the entire block was shut down for hours, but no arrests were made.

Then there were face-to-face confrontations when she or her volunteers were walking the dogs. Turcotte claims one neighbour told her that he would "kill the dogs with a crow bar."

Neighbour Patrice Pharand told Metro he and his family feel unsafe on his 90-acre property when Turcotte is out walking the dogs.

"I told her I didn't want to see any loose animals on my property," he told Metro. He said he told her

if he found animals on his property, he "would take measures for it."

Asked about the fake bomb, Pharand said it was "very very odd," and figured it was a practical joke. He's afraid of the dogs but said the fake bomb didn't scare him because it wasn't on his property. "It goes off, I am okay here."

Turcotte's municipality of La Pêche is reviewing the zoning bylaws to see if the dog shelter is legal.

When Turcotte opened her shelter in 2010, she got a permit that said, "dog breeding," but she said officials told her breeding and shelters are under the same zone class, so she didn't need to worry.

The next two years she received the same permit, but with the words "sanctuary-refuge" with permission to house more than 16 dogs at the shelter. When she asked about renewing this year's permit, she was told there was a problem.

The municipality says the permit was issued by mistake and should not have used the words "sanctuary-refuge" on the permit. The municipality is seeking legal advice, but it might be moot given Turcotte intends to relocate to Ontario sometime in the fall.

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Father Joe LeClair gets year in jail for fraud



Father Joe LeClair
MIKE CARROCCETTO/FOR METRO

Dozens of letters of support from parishioners and a history of going out of his way to help people in need wasn't enough to spare disgraced Blessed Sacrament priest Joe LeClair jail time.

A judge sentenced Father LeClair to one year in jail Wednesday morning for defrauding the popular church in the Glebe of more than

\$130,000 over five years. His jail term will be followed by one year of probation.

The judge also ordered LeClair, who was diagnosed as a pathological gambler, to pay \$134,000 in restitution.

The Archdiocese of Ottawa hired accounting firm Deloitte and Touche to investigate the church's finances, which revealed more than

\$1.16 million was deposited into LeClair's personal chequing account between 2006 and 2010.

Some of the deposits were legitimate stipends and lottery winnings, but others were from misdirected cheques and cash from the collection plate at his massing. LeClair pleaded guilty to fraud and theft on Jan. 20.

Despite all that, his followers stand by him.

"All of the good he has done for so many, for so many years, far outweighs this situation that we're in right now. That's why people are able to forgive," said Joanne Licari outside the courthouse. "I believe the sentencing was very harsh."

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Most women feel unsafe riding late-night transit, survey finds

Responses. The results were presented during a transit commission meeting on Wednesday

More women feel unsafe waiting for a bus late at night than men, according to a 2013 OC Transpo survey.

Of the women polled for an annual customer satisfaction report, just 49 per cent said they feel "safe and secure" waiting for a bus late at night, compared to 71 per cent of male respondents.

OC Transpo surveyed 1,525 people by phone from Nov. 22 to Dec. 10 of last year. The results were presented during a transit commission meeting on Wednesday.

Most of the women polled (84 per cent) felt safest when OC Transpo employees or police were around.

Transit general manager John Manconi said OC Transpo will make the bus system safer at night

by improving shelter lighting and ensuring late-night maintenance workers wear uniforms.

He said he plans to look at crime data with police, correlate it with OC Transpo data, and then do targeted blitzes at problem areas.

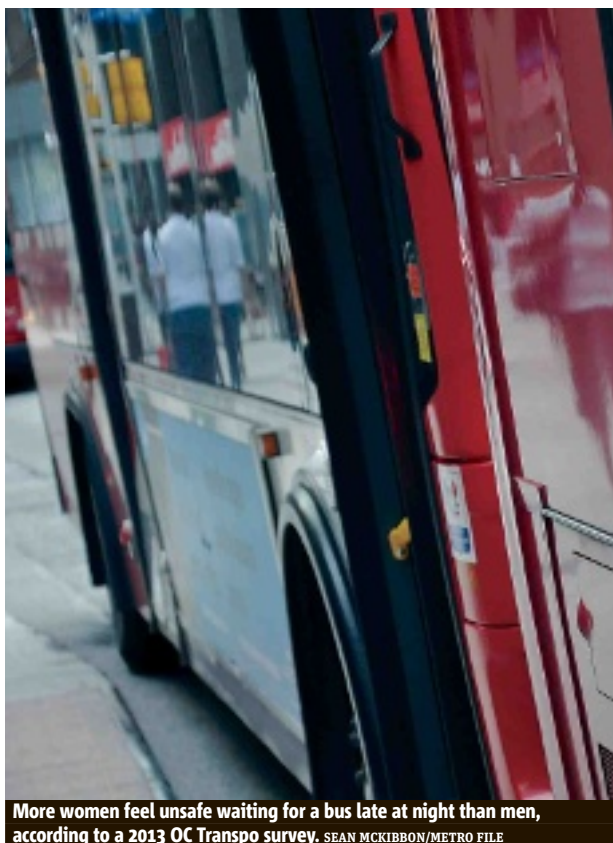
Erin Leigh, executive director of the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women, said she was not surprised by the stats. Although OC Transpo has taken steps towards improving safety for women — including its safe stop, which allows passengers to get off before or after a bus stop after 7 p.m. — she said more can be done.

"Those things have been in place and women still don't feel safe and women still aren't completely safe," she said.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

On the web

For more local news go to metronews.ca.



More women feel unsafe waiting for a bus late at night than men, according to a 2013 OC Transpo survey. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO FILE

Approval rating

Commuters give transit thumbs up

OC Transpo has seen its highest approval ratings since the 2008 bus strike, according to the city transit service's 2013 survey, which was presented at a transit commission meeting on Wednesday.

Eighty per cent of those polled in the annual survey gave a "good" or "very good" overall rating of OC Transpo.

It's the second-highest approval rating since the survey began before the 2008 strike. In that year, the figure reached a high of 82 per cent. Post-strike approval dropped to 68 per cent.

Even Presto scored 6.5 out of 10 for making "transit more convenient."

1 NEWS

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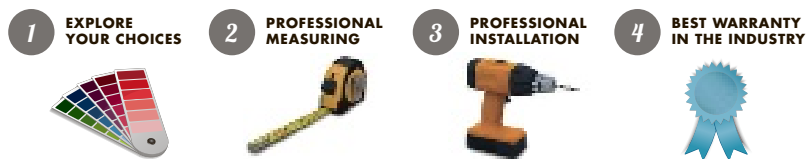
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A screenshot from Match.com, the website at the centre of a recent mistrial. CONTRIBUTED

Judge's mistake leads to mistrial

'Appearance of bias'
Justice admits error after perusing Match.com

OONA WOODS
ottawa@metronews.ca

A mistrial was declared by Ontario Court Justice Timothy Ray Wednesday following his own "off the record" conversation with a detective in a case.

On Dec. 18, 2013, Ray acquitted a man accused of sexual assault and forcible confinement but convicted him of common assault and two breaches.

Ottawa Police detective Erin Lehman signed an affidavit saying the judge had discretely asked to see her in his chambers following the trial, where he asked if she had gone on Match.com to research the case.

"I informed him I had not," her statement reads.

"He then advised me he had gone online last night, created a fake profile of himself pretending to be a 25-year-old gay male. He then told me that if Defence had done the same thing, she would have been able to 'hang' the victim."

Justice Ray denied finding any specific information on Match.com related to the complainant. He said he was curious about the site after hearing about it during the trial.

"After signing in using an anonymous user name I was faced with a great number of very personal questions," he said in court Wednesday.

"I then logged out. I did not conduct any research about the complainant and no information about the complainant was made available to me."

In Justice Ray's version of events there is no mention of creating a fake profile of a gay 25-year-old, only that it was "anonymous."

Justice Ray says this off the record conversation was "clearly an error in judgment" and while he feels he was not biased he admits there was an "appearance of bias" which is enough to require a mistrial.

Defence lawyer Celine Dostaler says this puts her client in limbo.

"It's going to be more stress with the possibility of another trial on the same issues," she said.

Start Up Weekend

Competition seeks entrepreneurs

The U.S. Embassy in Ottawa and Centrepointhe Library are putting out a call for ideas in the seed stage for their Start Up Weekend 2014 in collaboration with the not-for-profit UP Global.

Successful applicants to the program will pitch their ideas and receive feedback from peers. Teams will form around the top ideas and the weekend ends with presentations.

The Ottawa Public Library and the U.S. Embassy are also working together to launch a "makerspace."

The deadline for applications is April 6.

OONA WOODS/FOR METRO

Managing public land. NCC asks for your input

Have your say

Public consultations will take place March 25 at the Canadian Museum of History and at the War Museum on March 26. Both events begin at 5:30 p.m. You can also contribute online at ncc-ccn.gc.ca/urbanlands.

The National Capital Commission is working on its first ever master plan for federal lands within the urban perimeter.

Chief of planning and Transportation with the NCC Lucie Bureau says they are hoping the public will weigh in on ways to protect and use properties in the city.

"The lands are all quite scattered everywhere and have other federal owners," says Bureau. "It is our intent to continue to protect and encourage people to use those lands."

Bureau says an example of land use under consideration is the banks of the Ottawa River.

And is there any danger green space will be fodder for

developers in the future? Bureau says she does not see any drastic changes in the future.

"We're confirming that we are keeping (the green spaces). The NCC will continue to take care of these spaces, this is what the Capital is all about."

OONA WOODS/FOR METRO

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The Greer family is getting a free basement renovation after three Ottawa-area designers heard that six-year-old William Greer, in red, suffers from an inoperable tumour. Also pictured are mom Lindsay, dad Pat, brother Aidan and sister Gwen. Missing is oldest sister Kristen. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Young boy with brain tumour to get new play area

'Paradise room.'

Family of six-year-old to get basement charity makeover

The basement of the Greer family home in Aylmer has half-finished floors, unpainted walls and is filled with boxes and garbage bags. But six-year-old William Greer already calls it the "paradise room."

That's before three Ottawa-area designers give the unfinished basement a charity makeover in his name.

Greer, the second oldest child of the six-member family, suffers from a non-cancerous tumour that's growing on

his brain stem. He will need to undergo chemotherapy to shrink it and prevent it from potentially causing more damage. Needless to say, renovating the basement has not been the family's top priority.

So mom Lindsay Pritchard said she was blown away when three designers offered to tackle the room in the family bungalow for free.

"It's a huge relief," she said. "Financially, with four kids, it's tough to find the money to

put into renovations. We don't have any extra time either."

Sarah Kidder, Kelly James and Candace Plotz have been planning to do a charity home makeover for a family in need. So a mutual friend put them in touch with the Greer family. The trio banded together to form the WillPower Girls design team and are hoping to raise \$5,000 for the cause.

Initially, they were going to give William's bedroom a makeover. But Kidder said they decided to do the basement, which is something he can enjoy playing in with his four-year-old brother, Aidan, his university-aged sister and his younger sister Gwen, who is 21 months.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Where to donate?

Anyone who wants to donate can visit www.youcaring.com/thewillpowerproject.

Conviction reversed for man accused of aiding suicides

The mother of a Canadian university student who committed suicide after online conversations with a former U.S. nurse said the reversal of the man's convictions means justice isn't being served.

The Minnesota Supreme court reversed the convictions Wednesday of William Melchert-Dinkel, who is accused of encouraging two people whom he met online to kill themselves.

One of them was 18-year-old Nadia Kajouji of Brampton, Ont, who jumped into a frozen Ottawa river in 2008.

The Carleton University student's mother said the ruling doesn't change what Melchert-Dinkel stands accused of.

"It's a legal system, it's not a justice system. The two are completely different," Deborah Chevalier said after hearing of the ruling.

"At the very least, the world knows what he's done. His

friends, his family know what he's done. He can't run away from that."

Melchert-Dinkel was convicted in 2011 of two counts of aiding suicide. The judge found that he "intentionally advised and encouraged" Kajouji and an English man — 32-year-old Mark Drybrough who died in 2005 — to take their own lives.

The high court struck down a section of the state's assisted suicide law that makes it a crime to "encourage" someone to commit suicide, but upheld part of the law that makes it a crime to "assist" in someone's suicide.

Since the lower court judge did not rule on whether Melchert-Dinkel "assisted" in a suicide, the high court sent the case back to that judge for further consideration.

According to Rice County Attorney Paul Beaumaster, who prosecuted the case, it's now up to the lower court judge to



William Melchert-Dinkel
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

decide whether the evidence showed that Melchert-Dinkel "assisted" in the suicides.

Melchert-Dinkel's attorney, Terry Watkins, said he doesn't believe there is enough evidence to prove that.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Humpty Dumpsy'

Ukrainian Easter egg paintings capture beauty, fragility of life

In preparation for Easter, one local artist has created an Easter egg hunt painting exhibition.

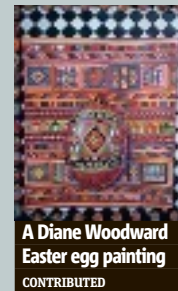
Diane Woodward's work is on display at The Urban Pear from March 18 to April 20, with a vernissage happening on March 30 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

"I've been painting for 40 years," says Woodward, whose works have been featured in galleries all over Ontario. Woodward also goes by the pseudonym Uma the Painter, for her work painting Hindu

temples in India, Quebec and the Bahamas. Over the past five years

Woodward says she has kept coming back to the subject of Ukrainian Easter eggs. "I had done an exhibition about chickens and I wondered what came next," says Woodward.

When she was 15 Woodward was introduced to the tradition of painting Easter eggs by a Ukrainian friend. Woodward said, "They just blew my mind — they were the most beautiful



A Diane Woodward
Easter egg painting
CONTRIBUTED

thing I'd ever seen.

"Humans, no matter what, were going to decorate something," says Woodward. She explains that she is attracted to patterns and designs, especially ones coming out of an austere cultural setting. Inspired by recent events in Ukraine, one of Woodward's paintings, entitled Fragile, shows a soldier with an Easter egg pattern on his helmet.

"All over TV you see these soldiers and they have machine guns and look like the toughest guys in the world but they are fragile — they are human and human life is not expendable," says Diane.

Woodward's exhibition focuses on the crossing of cultures and religious symbols.

TANYA KIRNISHNI/FOR METRO

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Great cause. Gatsby bash for Wish Foundation

How do you plan a high-profile fundraising event on a \$0 budget?

Just ask Algonquin College student Victoria Fleming and her team who have been tasked with throwing The Great Gatsby Gala March 29 to raise \$10,000 for the Children's Wish Foundation.

"You just have to be really determined and take a lot of 'nos' and then finally you get a 'yes,'" laughed Fleming, describing the challenges of planning an event with no cash.

If the evening's schedule is any indication, it's clear Fleming and her team did a good job — landing acts like Ottawa funk band the Hornettes, pulling in more than \$10,000 in silent-auction items and scoring the raffle grand prize of two flight vouchers to any destination Porter Airlines flies.

But what's more, the money raised will go directly to grant a child's wish — something that couldn't make Fleming smile any wider.

"It touches your heart and you really feel like you are making a big difference in these



Children's Wish Foundation wish child Jayden poses with his family at the Sochi Olympics. CONTRIBUTED

little kids' lives," she said.

"All they want is just a little wish and it doesn't seem like much to us, but it is huge to them."

The gala is part of the college's Creating Magic program that aims to raise \$1 million for the Children's Wish Foundation. So far, the program has raised \$550,000 since 2007.

The party will take revellers on a trip back through time to the Roaring Twenties, with one of Jay Gatsby's extravagant parties. **TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO**

Ottawa Art Gallery opens satellite venue at city hall



Alex Badzak, director of the Ottawa Art Gallery, stands inside the new OAG Annex at city hall, which opened on Wednesday. **LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO**

Coming soon.

Construction of new home for the OAG to start this fall, finish in 2017



LUCY SCHOLEY
lucy.scholey@metronews.ca

Overcrowded with artwork and awaiting the construction of its \$34-million expansion, the Ottawa Art Gallery (OAG) has found a reprieve at city hall.

A new satellite location, the OAG Annex, opened Wednesday evening at the City Hall Art Gallery. The new venue is a chance for the OAG to spread out the artwork beyond its cramped 10,000 square feet of space on Daly Avenue, but it's also a promotion piece for the gallery's upcoming expansion project and Arts

Court redevelopment.

The satellite gallery will feature rotating artwork over a two-year period, alongside the designs of the new space.

The OAG will grow about four times its size into a four-level, minimalist building that will take up roughly one block on the corner of Waller and MacKenzie.

A restored staircase from the original Firestone family house will find a new home inside this building. It will lead to the permanent Firestone gallery, which will float above the main lobby, with more gallery spaces on other levels. It will also house a café and art studio.

Alex Badzak, director of the OAG, said the gallery is currently "buried" in the Arts Court and often "overshadowed" by the National Gallery of Canada.

Badzak said the new space will be a "cultural destination."



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FATE, DESTINY AND THE FREE WILL OF MAN

A lecture based on the work

« In the Light of Truth » The Grail Message
by Abd-ru-shin

Is every event in our lives predetermined? Is our life laid out for us in some predetermined way? Is there such a thing as fate or destiny? If so, what about free will and choice of action?

Drawing from the work "In the Light of Truth" the Grail Message, this lecture looks at the link between these seemingly contradictory concepts, and opens the path to a clear understanding of their relationship and harmony in human life.

I.J. Hamilton

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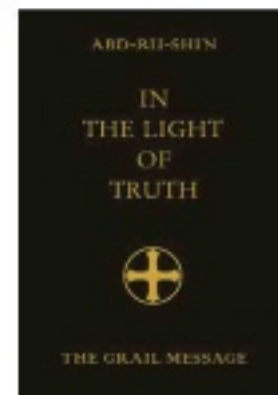
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Alberta premier stepping down

Effective Sunday.

Weeks of turmoil over lavish spending culminate in Alison Redford announcing her resignation

Alberta Premier Alison Redford is resigning.

Redford has been struggling to deal with unrest in her Progressive Conservative caucus over her leadership style and questionable expenses. She says her resignation will be effective Sunday.

"Quite simply, I am not prepared to allow party and caucus infighting to get in the way," she told supporters gathered in the legislature rotunda for the announcement. "I've given my heart and soul to this province, every minute for the last two and a half years."

Redford could not weather weeks of revelations of lavish spending. It began when it surfaced that she had spent



Alberta Premier Alison Redford announces her resignation in Edmonton on Wednesday. Redford has been struggling to deal with unrest in her Progressive Conservative caucus over her leadership style and questionable expenses. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$45,000 on first-class air tickets and a government plane to go to Nelson Mandela's funeral in South Africa.

Other revelations fell like hammer blows: Redford

using government planes for a vacation; to fly her daughter and her daughter's friends around; to go to a family funeral in Vancouver.

There were calls for Red-

ford to repay the money for the South Africa trip. She only did so after caucus tensions spilled into the public realm.

Last week, things went

from bad to worse when Redford's character came into question.

Calgary backbencher Len Webber quit the Tory caucus, saying he could no longer

stomach Redford's temper tantrums and abuse of subordinates. She wasn't a "nice lady," he said.

On the weekend, Redford was taken to task by Progressive Conservative party executive in a closed-door meeting. They emerged to say Redford would be given an unspecified "work plan" to follow.

The turmoil continued.

On Sunday, 10 government members met to debate whether to leave caucus and sit as Independents.

On Monday, Donna Kennedy-Glans, the associate minister for electricity, quit saying the promised reforms by Redford were dying on the vine.

Earlier Wednesday, it was reported that riding association presidents in Calgary would meet in the evening to call for her resignation.

Redford was named party leader in the fall of 2011 and won government in her own right on a platform of progressivism.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oliver says he'll 'continue the government's agenda'

For a time, the Conservative government used something called "event in a box" to help guide MPs on public announcements, a ready-made communications kit that could be rolled out with no fuss, no muss.

As Joe Oliver stepped into the Finance portfolio Wednesday, replacing Jim Flaherty, some wondered whether he would be given any latitude, or simply be rolling out a pre-election package.

"My overarching priority is to continue the government's agenda of creating jobs and growth right across the country," Oliver said in an interview.

Oliver will preside over just one federal budget before the fall 2015 election, one that is guaranteed to feature a surplus for the first time since 2007.

Whatever moves Oliver makes will be done at least partly in the context of electoral strategy and the shape of the next Conservative platform, elements highly controlled by the prime minister and party headquarters.

Keith Beardsley, a former aide to Stephen Harper, said there's a perception of 73-year-old Oliver as a placeholder be-



Joe Oliver was sworn in as finance minister Wednesday in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

fore the next election.

"You now have someone stepping in those shoes with a prime minister who certainly has his own opinions on the economy, and tax cuts, and everything else. So I think leading up to the election it's probably going to be largely controlled from PMO, through the PM directly," said Beardsley.

On the other hand, the former investment banker was not one to shy away from a conversation about his portfolio at Natural Resources. Oliver is also regarded as a straight

shooter, a bilingual one to boot. He has much more business experience than Flaherty did when he began in 2006.

Sandra Buckler, a former director of communications to the prime minister, said it is a disservice to Oliver to think of him as a mere spear carrier.

Buckler worked on Oliver's 2011 election campaign, and called him indefatigable and highly personable. She said Oliver fit right into cabinet, despite the fact he was a first-time politician, and has never been afraid to say "tough things publicly."

"I think he will be able to provide a steady hand to make sure the government will deliver on what it promised, which will be a pretty good surplus, but the needs and emphasis will have to be fine-tuned," said Buckler, vice-president of Bluesky Strategy Group.

"Will there be discussions around the cabinet table? Absolutely.... Will there be discussion between the prime minister and the finance minister about what the final product will be? For sure. And I trust Joe to make sure he speaks up for what he believes should be there." THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Ferocious feline to be an Animal Planet star

'My Cat from Hell'.

Expert to feature 'Lux', the cat from Oregon who attacked a family after a child pulled its tail

The large cat that attacked a baby and trapped an Oregon family in a bedroom touched off an Internet uproar that worries Jackson Galaxy, star of Animal Planet's My Cat from Hell.

Cats don't become ferocious felines that turn on their families for no reason, says the cat behaviour expert, who is heading to Portland soon to work with the four-



Lux, the cat who was the subject of a 911 call. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

year-old part Himalayan pet named Lux. Galaxy will film the visit for his show's fifth

season, which kicks off April 26.

"Every parental site on the Internet blames the cat for this confrontation. Every pet site blames the family," he said, adding that something is wrong if the cat is acting out. "We need to step away from the hysteria. There is a story behind all this. Don't assume anything."

Lux became a worldwide phenomenon after owner Lee Palmer called 911 and said the cat had cornered him, his girlfriend, their baby and the family dog. Palmer says his seven-month-old pulled Lux's tail, and he kicked the animal after it scratched the child. Then, the cat "just went off over the edge," Palmer told 911. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Newfoundland house buried by tough winter

Janice Gould and Rick Cooper's house in Port au Choix, N.L., is almost completely buried under snow on Wednesday. The couple were away most of the winter, but started to get calls from neighbours earlier this month telling them their house was in trouble. Gould said they rushed home to discover it was completely covered, with only its roof poking out of the snow. HO-JANICE GOULD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Flight 370: FBI helps analyze data deleted from pilot's flight simulator

Malaysian authorities.

They say it seems the flight was deliberately turned back with its communications systems disabled

The FBI is aiding Malaysian authorities investigate deleted data on a flight simulator belonging to the pilot of the missing Malaysia Airlines plane, while distraught relatives of the passengers unleashed their anger Wednesday, wailing in frustration at 12 days of uncertainty.

The anguish of relatives of the 239 people on Flight 370 boiled over at a briefing near Kuala Lumpur's airport. Two Chinese women who shouted at Malaysian authorities and unfurled a banner accusing officials of "hiding the truth" were removed from the room.



A woman reads messages for passengers aboard a missing Malaysia Airlines plane, at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Malaysia.
LAI SENG SIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a heart-wrenching scene, one woman screamed in sorrow as she was dragged away.

"I want you to help me to find my son! I want to see my

son!" one of the two unidentified women said. "We have been here for 10 days."

Files containing records of flight simulations were de-

leted Feb. 3 from the device found in the home of the Malaysia Airlines pilot, Capt. Zaharie Ahmad Shah, Malaysian police chief Khalid Abu

said.

It was not immediately clear whether investigators thought that deleting the files was unusual. The files might

hold signs of unusual flight paths that could help explain where the missing plane went.

Defence Minister Hisham-muddin Hussein told a news conference that Zaharie is considered innocent until proven guilty. He said members of the pilot's family are co-operating in the investigation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Signals

Investigators have identified two giant arcs of territory spanning the possible positions of the plane about 7 1/2 hours after takeoff, based on its last faint signal to a satellite.

- The arcs stretch up as far as Kazakhstan in central Asia and down deep into the southern Indian Ocean.

Faux pas

Organizer of WWII party with Nazi flags apologizes

The organizer of a Second World War-themed party that included Nazi flags and men in SS uniforms is apologizing after a photo of the event in the U.S. provoked outrage on the Internet. Scott Steben had said that the January dinner was a Christmas party and an exercise for period actors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Empty mansion

Teenagers charged with breaking and partying

Authorities have filed criminal charges against 14 teenagers who allegedly broke into a Southern California mansion and held a party that caused more than \$1 million in damage and losses, including the theft of a stuffed snow leopard. Authorities say the party promoted on social media in November brought more than 100 teens to the La Habra Heights mansion while the owner was away. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Pistorius. Girlfriend was standing in toilet cubicle as first shot hit hip, court hears

Oscar Pistorius' girlfriend was standing in a toilet cubicle and facing the closed door when she was hit in the right hip by the first of four bullets that he fired, a police ballistics expert testified Wednesday at the double-amputee runner's murder trial.

Reeva Steenkamp fell back onto a magazine holder in the cubicle and crossed her arms over her head to protect herself, said Capt. Christiaan Mangena. The second bullet missed Steenkamp and ricocheted off the wall and broke into fragments, bruising her back, he said.

Steenkamp was then hit in her right arm and in the head by the third and fourth shots fired by Pistorius with his 9 mm pistol, he said. She collapsed with her head on the toilet seat, Mangena said.

Pistorius, 27, is charged with premeditated murder in Steenkamp's shooting death on Feb. 14 last year and faces 25 years to life in prison if convicted. He says he shot Steenkamp, 29, by mistake through a locked



Oscar Pistorius glances sideways as he listens to ballistic evidence being given in court in Pretoria, South Africa, on Wednesday.
LEON SADIKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

door in his bathroom because he thought she was a dangerous nighttime intruder.

Pistorius says Steenkamp went to use the toilet during the night without him knowing, but prosecutors charge he killed her after a loud argument that caused her to flee and hide in the toilet area. Neighbours have testified to hearing loud screaming before and during the shots being fired.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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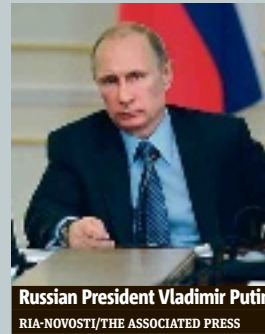
Kosovo and Crimea

Putin's justification of Crimea secession

Vladimir Putin's key argument justifying Crimea's secession from Ukraine and annexation by Russia is the West's acceptance of Kosovo's declaration of

statehood in 2008. Kosovo and Crimea both sought independence against the wishes of their central governments but the two situations have many differences. With the strong support of the United States, the ethnic Albanian-dominated Kosovo seceded from Serbia over Serbia's strong objections. Russia, a historic Slavic ally of the Serbs, at the time argued that the Kosovo

declaration was a serious breach of international law that could lead to a series of statehood claims elsewhere in the world. Enter Crimea, Ukraine's strategic Black Sea peninsula. After Crimean residents voted overwhelmingly Sunday to secede and join Russia, Putin is invoking the precedent of Kosovo to justify the vote while the West insists the ballot is invalid. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Russian President Vladimir Putin
RIA-NOVOSTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Armed Crimean self-defence forces stand outside the Training Centre of the Naval Forces of Ukraine while taking over its control in Sevastopol, Crimea, on Wednesday. ANDREW LUBIMOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine to hold military exercise with U.S., U.K

Following the referendum. Putin signed a treaty on Tuesday to incorporate Crimea into Russia

drawing up plans to evacuate its outnumbered troops from Crimea back to the mainland and will seek UN support to turn the peninsula into a demilitarized zone.

He also said Ukraine will hold military manoeuvres with the countries that signed the 1994 Budapest Memorandum. He didn't elaborate.

The document was signed by the U.S., Britain and Russia to guarantee Ukraine's territorial integrity when it surrendered its share of Soviet nuclear arsenals to Russia after the Soviet Union broke up in 1991. Ukraine has accused Russia of breaching the agreement by taking over the Crimean Peninsula.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian forces seized military installations across the disputed Crimean Peninsula on Wednesday, prompting Ukraine's security chief to announce that his country will hold joint military exercises with the United States and Britain.

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden was in Lithuania, trying to reassure nations along Russia's borders who were terrified by the sight of an expansion-minded Moscow.

"We're in this with you, together," Biden said.

Ukraine has been powerless to prevent Russian troops from taking control of Crimea, which Russian President Vladimir Putin annexed on Tuesday. A day later, masked Russian-speaking troops moved into Ukraine's naval headquarters in the Crimean city of Sevastopol, detaining the head of Ukraine's navy and seizing the facility. They faced no resistance.

Andriy Parubiy, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council, said the government was

Military alliance

Russia's advances in Ukraine are the greatest threat to European security since the Cold War, NATO's chief said Wednesday.

- NATO outlined military measures to respond to Russia, if needed.
- They include surveillance flights over Poland and Romania.



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Port Metro Vancouver. Government prepping back-to-work legislation

The government and Port Metro Vancouver aren't waiting to hammer out a deal with striking truckers and their union.

Instead, the B.C. government was prepping back-to-work legislation to get 250 Uni-for truckers to resume moving containers at the port, which is struggling with a massive backlog due to a three-week-long strike by more than 1,000 striking drivers (most don't belong to a union), the province announced Wednesday.

The action comes after the union didn't accept a 14-point plan, proposed by the government one week ago, to resolve

issues including unpaid wait times and rate cutting.

"Suppliers are feeling the effects right now in their stores," said Transport Minister Lisa Raitt during a Tuesday speech to the Toronto Region Board of Trade.

Raitt began to rhyme off a long list of national companies like Home Depot, Canadian Tire, Loblaw, Target and Hudson's Bay she said are being impacted, noting that several corporate officials brought their concerns to her during Tuesday's lunch.

METRO IN VANCOUVER, WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Market Minute



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TSX
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Natural gas: \$4.47 US (no change)
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Toyota hit with record \$1.2B penalty in the U.S.



A Toyota Camry is shown after it crashed as it exited Interstate 80 in Utah in 2010. Police suspect problems with the Camry's accelerator or floor mat caused the crash that left two people dead and two others injured. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Largest of its kind.

While feds settled with Japanese automaker over safety issues that became public in 2009, a criminal charge was filed

The U.S. government announced a \$1.2 billion US settlement with Toyota Motor Corp. on Wednesday and filed a criminal charge alleging the company defrauded consumers by issuing misleading statements about safety issues in Toyota and Lexus vehicles. The penalty is the

Criticism

"Toyota confronted a public safety emergency as if it were a simple public relations problem."

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder

largest of its kind ever imposed on an auto company, the Justice Department said.

The action concludes a years-long criminal investigation into the Japanese automaker's disclosure of safety problems, which focused on whether Toyota was forthright in reporting problems of unintended acceleration troubles.

The company admitted to misleading consumers and regulators in providing assurances that it had addressed the problems — which became public in 2009 following a car crash in San Diego that killed a family of four — through a limited safety recall of certain models. Toyota knew at the time that other models susceptible to the same acceleration problem had not been recalled and also took steps to conceal a separate acceleration problem related to a faulty pedal, according to the Justice Department. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ADVERTISING FEATURE

How to Sell Your Home Without an Agent and Save the Commission

Ottawa ON - If you've tried to sell your home yourself, you know that the minute you put the "For Sale by Owner" sign up, the phone will start to ring off the hook. Unfortunately, most calls aren't from prospective buyers, but rather from every real estate agent in town who will start to hound you for your listing.

Like other "For Sale by Owners", you'll be subjected to a hundred sales pitches from agents who will tell you how great they are and how you can't possibly sell your home by yourself. After all, without the proper information, selling a home isn't easy. Perhaps you've had your home on the market for several months with no offers from qualified buyers. This can be a very frustrating time, and many homeowners have given up their dreams of selling their

homes themselves. But don't give up until you've read a new report entitled "Sell Your Own Home" which has been prepared especially for homesellers like you. You'll find that selling your home by yourself is entirely possible once you understand the process.

Inside this report, you'll find 10 inside tips to selling your home by yourself which will help you sell for the best price in the shortest amount of time. You'll find out what real estate agents don't want you to know.

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Chromecast coming to Canada

Canadian Netflix and YouTube users looking for a cheap and easy way to stream content on their big screen TVs will finally be able to buy Google's Chromecast device starting on Wednesday.

Originally launched in the U.S. last July, the small \$39 gadget plugs into a TV's HDMI port and is powered either through a TV's USB connection or by plugging into an electrical outlet.

The Chromecast doesn't come with a remote. Instead, users control streaming content on their TV with phone

or tablet apps or via the Google Chrome web browser on a computer.

"I think what's really resonated with consumers is using their personal devices as a controller. That's something that we bet on and we've seen that bet come to fruition," said Chromecast product manager Raunaq Shah during a media preview in Toronto on Tuesday.

The Chromecast quickly

sold out after it was first released in the U.S. and continued to be tough to find in stores.

Shah said that won't be a problem with the Canadian launch and consumers should have no issues purchasing one through Amazon.ca or the Google Play store.

"It will be easy to get," he said, and added that Google is also hoping to get the Chromecast in Canadian stores. THE CANADIAN PRESS



River plan 'pathetic': Scientist

Alberta's plan to protect the Athabasca River from the escalating pressure of oilsands development reveals how little the government understands about the environment it claims to protect, say prominent scientists and critics.

"It's pretty pathetic," said David Schindler, a retired University of Alberta ecologist and a leading expert on freshwater systems. "If you were to put this before a panel of international scientists, they would be incredulous."

Government officials say the draft plan, obtained by The Canadian Press, is the best they can do with what they have.

"The challenge we have is that we're using what I'd call the best available science," said Andy Ridge, director of water policy for Alberta Environment. "It's not necessarily the best possible."

"Most people are going to say we need to improve the science. But of what's available, (we've) used it."

Last December, the provin-

cial government distributed its draft surface water quantity management framework for the Lower Athabasca River to industry, interest groups and First Nations. Its measures are expected to be implemented by the fall.

The report points out industrial water demand on the Athabasca is expected to increase by nearly 500 per cent by 2020 and provides ways to regulate how much water could be removed at different times of the year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA ETIQUETTE FOR DUMMIES

I get in Facebook fights often.

I try to be civil, but then someone will post about Phil Kessel or Joffrey Baratheon or the Judeo-Christian God and suddenly I need to let the world know why their take on the individual in question is hopelessly wrong.

Digital progress has allowed me an emotional throwback. Social media is where I can revive the rip-roaring bull sessions that used to happen at house parties in my 20s when the smell of pot was in the air, half the guests were face down in the nacho dip, and those still conscious would talk about Big Questions. Why are we on Earth? Who shot JFK? Who's better — Kirk or Picard? Did Kirk and/or Picard shoot JFK? There was a lot of drinking.

Now I can have the same sort of debates without staying up late or buying my own alcohol. (I bought my own at least twice).

Arguing without angering friends or followers can be



HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

tricky, of course, so there are rules I follow for using social media with tact. Some involve arguing, while others are just about comporting myself well online.

As with all social-media arguments, I believe my advice is Absolute Truth and anyone who disagrees is an idiot worthy of scorn. It's just the way things are done online.

John's Guide to Online Civility

Part I: Fighting Tips

- As in real life, the soundest way to deal with a fight on Facebook is to sigh heavily, clap slowly and say, "Oh, good point."
- Follow up all death threats with a smiley face to show you're probably joking.
- Whoever posts the last comment in an angry argument thread wins.
- You can avoid direct confrontation with passive aggression. For example, say a friend's status says, "I like peanut butter," you might write "You're an idiot" and you'd lose a friend. But if you write, "Any-

body who likes peanut butter is an idiot" you have plausible deniability.

Part II: General Rules

- Remember that writing an offensive or ignorant tweet is one of the quickest ways for aspiring writers to get published in the Huffington Post.
- Employers commonly look at prospective workers' social media. If you must post photos of yourself heavily drinking, try to drink products from companies you might like to work for some day.
- To avoid annoying friends, try to reach a one-to-one ratio in statuses between petty whining and obnoxious bragging.
- If you must announce a death before notifying next of kin, be sure to tag it SPOILERS.

The rules in Part II might actually help you avoid arguments, if you're into that sort of thing. But regardless of whether you prefer to duke it out or play it cool, remember: Facebook and Twitter are public forums. If you must rant and don't want anyone to know, try Google Plus.

Last word!

ZOOM

Fancy a round trip to N.Y.C.?



RANDY SCOTT SLAVIN/REX FEATURES

Photograph turns city topsy-turvy

This mind-bending image of North Cove Marina in New York City will have you in a spin. The surreal landscape was created by photographer Randy Scott Slavin, who used a clever photographic technique to contort the panorama to jaw-dropping effect. **METRO**

Q & A

Inspiration and challenges

What's your inspiration?

My work has evolved from a love of landscape photography and dis-orientating artwork of M.C. Escher. A friend introduced me to Escher's

images in elementary school and it left an indelible mark on my taste ever since.

How is the photography challenging for you?

You have to wait for the right light and in the process deal with everything that mother nature has to offer.

Snap happy

100

individual photographs were used to create the 360-degree composite image. Using picture-editing software, Slavin stitched the photos together to produce a stereographic projection (the mapping of a spherical image onto a flat plane).

Clickbait



LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

After reaching peak Flappy Bird last month, the teeming masses of the Internet have been on the lookout for the next game capable of making frustration fun. Fortunately, a 19-year-old developer has stepped up to the plate with 2048, a few lines of open-source code that resembles a math nerd's version of Candy Crush. The original game can be found at gabrielecirulli.github.io/2048, but there are also a host of goofy remixes that are more fun — or at least more weird — to play.

Doge 2048:

So 2048. Much difficulty. Wow. (doge2048.com)

Doctor Who 2048:

This game replaces the numbers of the original 2048 with various portraits of the actors who have portrayed the Time Lord. If you can build up to Matt Smith, you win! (games.usvsth3m.com/2048-doctor-who-edition)

com/2048-doctor-who-edition)

4:

If you find 2048 too hard, try 4. If you can't win in two moves, you might want to check with your doctor. (ehzhang.github.io/4/)

2048 3D:

2048 in three dimensions. I can't even. (joppi.github.io/2048-3D/)



SCREEN GRAB

Twitter



@metropicks asked: A smartwatch that uses

Google Now was announced.

What would you want your smartwatch to be able to do?

@Canucklehead_ca: Come up with funny responses to questions immediately. (See also: delay last call.)

@TrevorMarr: ToDo list w/ GPS proximity reminder so I don't go past store/shop w/out picking up item I needed. #IWasJustThere

@redsultan: Do basic chores while I'm asleep. Project a 3D holographic

image if me to replace me at exams, awkward meetings.

@mtlkeith: Tell me I am eligible for retirement!

@EvanDentremont: I have a smart watch. It already does everything. Incoming calls, emails, texts, blackjack (seriously)

@mitch_waugh: why the need for a "smart watch", when we all carry around our smart phones anyways.

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'A good old space adventure'

Thomas J. Bradley.
Algonquin professor
pens imaginative
debut novel



**BACKSTAGE
PASS**
Jen Traplin
ottawa@metronews.ca

Hoping to spark imagination in a younger audience, Algonquin College web development professor Thomas J. Bradley has written and published his first novel, *The Accidental Adventures of Mariska Arisia*.

The book is a space adventure that follows Mariska after she crashes her spaceship on a planet she's never visited. While trying to get off that planet and back to her delivery job, Mariska struggles with her introspective nature and meets a new friend. Together, they're thrown into a world-saving escapade with asteroids, space pirates and fantastical creatures.

"I feel that, as sci-fi has grown in popularity and acceptance, it's trended towards stories of destruction and apocalypse. I really wanted to bring back optimism and wonder," Bradley explains.

"I really appreciate sci-fi that critiques modern society and warns of future dangers but I was yearning for a good

Optimism and wonder

"I wanted to evoke the feeling that *Star Wars* gave me as a kid."

Thomas J. Bradley, author of *The Accidental Adventures of Mariska Arisia*, on his debut novel.



Thomas J. Bradley's first novel, *The Accidental Adventures of Mariska Arisia*, is available now. LIZ BRADLEY/ELIZABETH&JANE PHOTOGRAPHY

old space adventure. I wanted to evoke the feeling that *Star Wars* gave me as a kid, to imagine the amazing creatures of Jim Henson and inspire excitement of the endless possibilities of the universe."

The concept of the novel clearly stems from an active imagination, something Bradley is able to tap into thanks, in part, to his job as a teacher.

"One thing that I have to

do often as a teacher is explain the same thing in many different ways and from many different perspectives. That needs lots of creativity," he says.

Bradley has only been writing seriously for less than a year, but admits it's something that has always interested him – it was just a matter of finding the time to do it.

"I've had ideas for a space

adventure bouncing around in the back of my mind for a long time and this past summer I just went for it," he says.

"Throughout the school year, my time is almost completely dedicated to teaching. I make a little time on weekends and evenings to follow what's happening in the web development community and write some code but I'm very privileged to have time in the summer to really explore

other creative outlets and work on in-depth development projects."

Before penning *The Accidental Adventures of Mariska Arisia*, Bradley wrote and illustrated two children's books but only ordered copies for family and friends. He now intends on getting those published as well.

The Accidental Adventures of Mariska Arisia is available on Amazon and Indigo.

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Before technology made it easier on the puppeteers those from Jim Henson to Frank Oz went to great lengths to bring the characters alive



IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

When The Muppet Movie was released in 1979 the Muppet Show Fan Club pointed out the differences between the movie and the puppet's popular television show.

"If you think it's a film version of The Muppet Show, you're in for a surprise. For one thing, it doesn't take place in the theatre. The Muppet Movie is set in the real world — it's like waiting in line at a gas

Devotion

"I was under the water for a week. I had three days of scuba training and then down I went."

Frank Oz, Miss Piggy's puppeteer
On the lengths he had to go to for Miss Piggy's water ballet scene in The Great Muppet Cape.

station and looking up to find Fozzie and Kermit driving the next car over." In the subsequent seven theatrical Muppet movies that magic has been maintained, but the methods have changed over the years. In 2011's The Muppet Movie all the puppets were real, but the way they were filmed changed. To give the puppets a full range of movement the puppeteers — or Muppeteers as they prefer to be called — were often in full view of the camera and digitally removed in post production.

"We removed the puppeteers later," said visual effects artist Max Ivins, "so it gave the



Ricky Gervais, left, with the muppets in a scene from Muppets Most Wanted. AP PHOTO/DISNEY ENTERPRISES

puppeteers a lot more freedom in that they didn't have to hide from the camera to do everything." It's a technique used in Muppets Most Wanted, which sees the furry and felt puppets get into trouble on a world tour when it turns out that

Kermit's doppelgänger is the world's number one criminal. Co-starring with the Muppets is Ricky Gervais, Ty Burrell and Tina Fey. In the years before computer generated imagery, however, Muppeteers hidden from view manipulated all the

puppets. And it wasn't always so comfortable.

Everyone remembers Kermit sitting on a log, playing his banjo, in the middle of a swamp in The Muppet Movie, but did you know that Jim Henson, Kermit's creator and

operator until 1990, was under water for the five days it took to shoot the scene?

According to the Muppet Fan Club he was wedged into a metal tube "under the water, under the log, under the Frog" while hooked up with an air hose, a monitor and a rubber sleeve which allowed him to manipulate the puppet.

Frank Oz was also submerged for Miss Piggy's water ballet scene in The Great Muppet Caper. "I was under the water for a week," he says. "I had three days of scuba training and then down I went." Finally, almost every Muppet movie features Kermit riding a bicycle. How did they do it in the early days? Director James Frawley jokes, "I put him on a three-wheeler until he got his balance, and then I put him on the two-wheeler."

In fact, the effect was achieved by intercutting long shots using a Kermit marionette and close-ups with a hand puppet operated by Henson who rode along with the bike on a low-rolling dolly.

A swine time was had

Miss Piggy handles press with porcine perfection

I have a secret to tell you that I think Miss Piggy would rather remain undisclosed.

The blonde bombshell, that porcine paradigm of perfection, was in Toronto on Tuesday to do some press for

her new film Muppets Most Wanted, and sit in for a press conference hosted by moi.

Like everyone else I had heard the stories. The word diva comes up frequently when Miss Piggy is discussed. She has a No Competing Diva clause in her contracts and has even written a book titled The Diva Code.

In the film she does a duet with Celine Dion, and when asked who was the biggest prima donna on set

she snapped back, "Well, naturally moi." I'm here to tell you it's not true.

She was on time, primed and ready to go and had very funny answers to all the questions. She admits to enjoying "making a statement wherever she goes," and Tuesday's presser was no exception. When I asked her if she got star struck around co-stars Tina Fey and Ricky Gervais, she said it's others who get star

struck by her, before adding, "others are struck by a star if they get between moi and the camera."

The only hint of diva-ish behaviour came when she was asked who could portray her in a biopic. "Moi, of course," she said, but later when asked if she knew she was a gay icon she replied, in a most undiva-like way, "I'm an icon to anyone who will have moi!" **RICHARD CROUSE**



Metro's Richard Crouse and the world's most famous pig. GEORGE PIMENTEL

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M.I.A. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Millions NFL is seeking from rapper still M.I.A.

Rapper M.I.A.'s feud with the NFL isn't going away, as the sports league has apparently been after her for two years to pay a \$1.5 million US fine for flipping the bird during the 2012 halftime show, according to the Hollywood Reporter. And on top of that, the NFL is apparently looking for an additional \$15.1 million US as "restitution" because of how much exposure the incident garnered M.I.A. The NFL maintains that her stunt was a "flagrant disregard for the values that form the cornerstone of the NFL brand and the Super

Bowl" and that she breached an agreement to maintain the league's "reputation of wholesomeness," a charge her legal team finds laughable. "The claim for restitution lacks any basis in law, fact or logic," her reps says. "The continued pursuit of this proceeding is transparently an exercise by the NFL intended to bully and make an example of (M.I.A.) for daring to challenge the NFL." The rapper at least has a sense of humour about it, asking fellow halftime show performer Madonna if she could borrow \$16 million in a tweet that was later deleted.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



LiLo's sex list Blooming with names



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

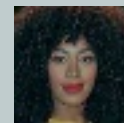
Everyone! Important news! More names on Lindsay Lohan's sex list have been revealed! And yes, you will want to know who they are.

Earlier in the month, I told you about In Touch's "world exclusive" report, in which the mag somehow got a hold of Lindsay Lohan's handwritten conquest list. Heath Ledger, Adam Levine, Zac Efron, Justin Timberlake, Joaquin Phoenix,

Colin Farrell, Evan Peters, Wilmer Valderrama and Jamie Dornan all made the cut, for better or worse. However, some of the names were blanked out for what everyone assumed were legal reasons — but now we know it was just a clever way for In Touch to drag the story on for as long as possible.

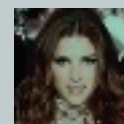
The new batch of names include Ashton Kutcher, Orlando Bloom, Benicio Del Toro, Ryan Phillippe, rugby player Danny Cipriani, NHL player Aaron Voros and director Josh Mond. So, there you go. Everyone famous who Lindsay Lohan has had sex with. The only person who is missing is Danny DeVito. And at this point, he probably didn't make it because she couldn't figure out how to spell DeVito.

Twitter



@solangeknowles

Think'n about adding "this is shade" to all my tweets that r actually shade, in the way u have to add "this is sponsored" to avoid confusion



@AnnaKendrick47

Hey fellow humans, when u see me out picking up prescriptions and want to get a photo, can u be super cool and just not do that? Thank you!!



@pattonoswalt

"That Sherlock Cumberbatch man could find the Malaysian plane in 5 minutes." -- someone's mom, probably

Is Schwartzman's pooch really a service dog?

Every dog owner has had a momentary flash of jealousy toward service dogs. Why does someone else get to bring his dog inside a restaurant, they think, while my precious baby has to wait in the car? Such is their love for their pooches that some owners even create false service dog badges and jackets for their darlings — temptingly easy to do, especially since dogs in outfits are always adorable. Now, it seems that Jason Schwartzman's dog Arrow has temporarily joined the service dog ranks.

Grand Budapest Hotel star Schwartzman was recently in Austin for SXSW, with French bulldog Arrow in tow. Master and pup were spotted in the Austin airport preparing to board a flight, and Arrow was wearing a service dog badge, according to Page Six. So what service is Arrow provid-



Jason Schwartzman

ing to Schwartzman? Hard to say. Service dogs are used for a variety of conditions, not all of which are visible to the naked eye. However, there are numerous photos of Schwartzman and Arrow out and about together, with no sign of a service badge in sight. Maybe Arrow's a recent grad from his training — or maybe Schwartzman just didn't want to relegate his furry friend to a crate.

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Keeping it Karl and collected

The shades of showmanship. In the wake of his new flagship store opening and perfume launch, we sat down with Karl Lagerfeld to talk about street style, scents and his ever-growing list of projects

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News

'This is why I don't do selfies. I hate selfies! It's too wide, it's too wide! Take the light away. Okay, I'll go to the shelf over there,' Karl Lagerfeld says.

We're in a hotel suite in Mayfair, London, and I'm following him from one corner of the room to another as we search for good lighting and the right angle for the perfect selfie.

'Oh wait,' he gives my iPhone back to me, 'Please turn it. I can only see you. I can take a selfie of you, hmmm?' Karl then settles for a softly lit spot next to a bookshelf.

He looks remarkably spry and energetic considering that he's just gotten off a plane from Paris for a quick trip here to celebrate the launch of his first flagship store in the UK for his eponymous clothing line and his new perfume range, which is now available in stores globally.

He plans to fly back as soon as the parties are over. ('He doesn't like to be away from Choupette for too long,' one of his team members tells me.) But first there is an interview to do and selfies to take. 'I think they're electronic masturbation,' he says. But he does one for us anyway.

You've opened a new store



Click and clothe: Karl Lagerfeld's new store in London has iPads built into its changing room walls so customers can take selfies while they shop. PROVIDED

Death to all things dull

"The only thing that tires me is when I'm bored. Boredom is the most tiring thing. Perhaps people have boring lives. I have no time for that, eh?"

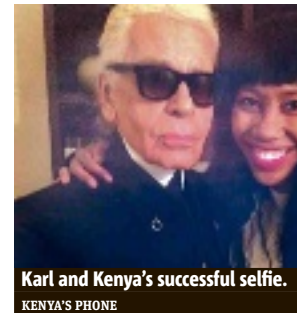
and launched a new perfume. This is a big week for you.

This is a big week but I'm used to this kind of week so I don't consider them really big. For me it's a normal week. I do so many things at the same time. I do photos. I work on the collections to come, cruise and all that. For me, something like a launch in Paris is almost like recreation for me. Because it's different from the normal

daily discipline and work.

Well, I think that in addition to bottling your perfume you should bottle your energy and sell that in your stores.

Yes, but I need it myself so I can't sell those bottles, hmmm? My energy in a way improved with age. When I was very young I had very low blood pressure and was tired all the time. Now, I'm just tired to go to bed and sleep. But I'm



Karl and Kenya's successful selfie.
KENYA'S PHONE

not tired in the rest of the day. The only thing that tires me is when I'm bored. Boredom is the most tiring thing. Perhaps people have boring lives. I have no time for that, eh?

Your clothes are obvious hits on the street style circuit. What do you say to those who argue that street style culture has gone too far?

This is a fake problem. Everything changes. I think in today's world there's also big change in magazines and in the collections. We live in the middle of change. Look at how the world has changed since this and all that. The computer has changed it all. Fashion is about change and the world is about change too. The changes in the world are not as quick as the changes in fashion. But we are in the middle of a huge change. I say, don't compare the present to the past if you want to survive happily in the next period. You have to adapt. Times don't have to adapt to you. And then you start to say, 'Oh the good old days'. And then you're over.

Before we go, any dos and don'ts for habitual perfume wearers?

I wear several perfumes at the same time. You know why? Because if you only use one you don't smell it anymore. And then you put so much on



that other people nearly faint when they see you, while you don't think you smell at all. So it's good for the nose to change. And then there are perfumes that I like to put on sheets and curtains.

Where do you normally like to wear it? Behind the ear, on your wrist?

Only on the clothes. Never on the skin. That's not the best thing to do. Even today it's less dangerous than in the past. In the past it was dangerous you know? In the past if you used bergamot and then went into the sun, you got sun spots. That's why women used to put it behind the ears because it's a place that the sun won't touch. I hate to have sun spots on my hands, that's why I wear the gloves. You have to take care of these things, you know? You don't have this kind of problem but I have.

Karl! You've done so many things.

Never enough.

You once said that you would never put your name to toilet paper.

I haven't been proposed with that kind of project yet and I don't think it's that chic but it's stuff everybody needs so that could change my mind.

Trends Report

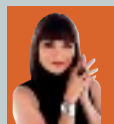
Ugly shoes are set to be the next big trend this spring, seen all over the runways at Milan and Paris fashion weeks. Go online to Trends Report and take a look at the 'ugly' shoes, which seem to go after comfort first, and let me know — would you choose heels or step into a pair of these?

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetrolreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo: Getty Images



Twitter



JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
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Adored @LINEknitwear @WWMCFashionWeek. So much scope! Varied textures, croc embossed leather, slinky angora. Lush+sexy



Imaginative texturing and a nod toward future femininity at #MikhaelKale

Spring into graphics

Quirky critters and peculiar print sweatshirts are the off-the-wall musts for your spring-summer '14 wardrobe. Metro rounds up the cheekiest novelty knits.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Paul Smith mushroom print sweatshirt,

\$355, mrporter.com

McQ Alexander McQueen neon bunny sweatshirt, \$287, matchesfashion.com



Art Disco 'Hound of Love' sweatshirt, \$70, topman.com



Billionaires Boys Club helmet crewneck, \$298, bbcicecream.com



Stepping out in style

VAWK goes all out on a limb

American amputee athlete Amy Winters stepped onto the runway for the VAWK show at World MasterCard Fashion Week on Monday wearing a Canadian-made prosthetic accessory. Winters sported the intricate piece created by Alberta-based Alleles Design Studio which specializes in accessories for lower limb prosthetics.

Winters is director of A Step Ahead Prosthetics in Long Island, N.Y. VAWK designer Sunny Fong previously worked with Alleles design partner McCauley Wanner, and Winters said they asked her to be part of the show.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Rea McNamara

Age: 30

Occupation: Assistant Art Curator

What she's wearing:

A mix of closet staples, hand-me-downs and borrows! I was just in New York for the art fairs, and was feeling less confident with my accessories, so pulled a couple pieces from my stylist guru, Porcelaine Desire. The denim vest came from a sale at the Levi's outlet many moons ago in Cookstown. The crochet Henley shirt came from a garbage bag full of clothes an ex-roommate of a friend left behind. The Anne Klein white shirt was a hand-me-down from my ex's mom. The long black skirt was a Junction vintage find, but deliberately buttoned-up haphazardly to look like a Comme des Garçons piece.

Her inspiration:

Diana Ross in Mahogany

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Q: WITH SPRING JUST AROUND THE CORNER, I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IS CONSIDERED TOO SHORT FOR A SKIRT OR DRESS IN THE OFFICE? - A.K.

A: Dress for the job you want and not the job you have! It is important to be seen as professional and serious at work, which means being appropriate with hem length and décolletage. Look for a simple knee length dress and pair it with a close fitting blazer for a stylish approach to office wear. Femme De Carriere carries exclusive designs for career-oriented women. Chic, stylish and professional - a winning combination!

Q: I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO WEAR TO THE GYM. IS IT POSSIBLE TO LOOK STYLISH WHILE WORKING OUT? - J.A.

A: Looking your best is a huge component to feeling good! Why sacrifice style while doing something as important as looking after your health? Yoga pants are a chic alternative to bulky track pants that move with you when you're working out. Pair them with a fitted top for a sleek look! Visit Joshua Perets for fun and colourful sweats, leggings and hoodies or try Roots and GAP for a terrific selection of active wear!

Q: ANY SWIMWEAR SUGGESTIONS FOR LADIES WHO'D LIKE TO CAMOUFLAGE WINTER WEIGHT GAIN? - S.H.

A: We are looking forward to the sunshine! With so many great options for swimwear out there, you can't go wrong. For the woman who might like to camouflage her weight, aim for something in a dark coloured one-piece or bikini bottom with a tank style top that disguises the midriff. Bikini Village offers Turquoise, and Profile by Gatex. Both are great lines of chic swimwear in one and two-piece looks, that will compliment any figure!

ANGIE RUSSELL | MARKETING DIRECTOR, BAYSHORE

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Ceiling the deal with colour that hits the high spots

White isn't the only option. Colourful ceiling exceptions to the blank canvas rule



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

I am re-painting the inside of my house this spring and I'd like to paint the ceilings a colour other than white. What are the designer rules? — Caren Lim, Vancouver

I'm sure you've often heard that ceilings should always be painted white, as it helps bounce natural light down into the room and offers visual relief from all the other colours and patterns in a room. That decorator rule holds true most of the time, but there are a few exceptions when changing up the colour of the ceiling has some advantages.

Extra-high ceilings

An extra-high ceiling in a small room can make a room feel smaller as it throws the proportion of the room off, giving it the cracker-jack box effect. Painting the ceiling (and any crown moldings) the same colour as the walls will help to visually lower the ceiling and soften the edge from wall to ceiling.

Vaulted rooms

Angled ceilings and walls are often features on the upper floors of older homes. A trick

Generous to a vault

Painting the ceiling (and any crown moldings) the same colour as the walls will help to visually lower the ceiling and soften the edge from wall to ceiling.

to take away the angles is to paint the walls, angled areas and ceiling the same colour. Wallpapering everything with a small patterned print will also help visually take away any distinct angles. Another trick is to add tall beadboard wainscoting to the walls, then paint the remaining top wall space and ceiling a great colour.

A room with dark walls

Whenever I paint a very dark room (like a cranberry red dining room or navy blue family room) I paint the ceiling a much lighter version of the floor colour. For example, if the wood floors in a dining room are golden oak, then I'd paint the ceilings a very pale golden taupe colour. This helps take away that crisp light-to-dark edge that would happen with dark walls and white ceiling. It softens the feeling of the room and helps to create a nice glow in the room. Using a gloss paint with dramatic wall colours can also add a touch of glamour and is becoming a big trend.

Wallpaper on a ceiling

The only time I have ever



White walls: Trick the eye by adding tall beadboard wainscoting and painting the wall above and the ceiling in a great colour. CONTRIBUTED

seen wallpaper work well on a ceiling is when a gold or silver-leafed paper was applied, giving the ceiling a sheen and lux touch. This looks exceptionally great in dramatic rooms like dining, powder or bedrooms where silver or

gold metal tones are used.

In basements

A very-barely-there blue is a great option as it keeps the room feeling bright. Blue is also a reflective colour that helps brighten dingy spaces.



Crowning glory: For a dramatic touch, gold-leafed paper provides a luxurious sheen. CONTRIBUTED



Come together: Papering ceilings and walls in a small patterned print minimizes angles. CONTRIBUTED

Feel the pane —rehab your rubbish

DIY. Give wooden salvage a second life with four ideas that turn junk into gems

Every homeowner is guilty of abandoning old home furnishings that were left to collect dust. Don't wait any longer to rescue your forgotten gems from the dust bunnies in the back of your closet, attic or garage. Consider transforming odds and

ends into helpful household items which can be both cost effective and practical. You may discover that even the most seemingly useless items can be functional again with a little inspiration and a touch of creativity.

When opportunity knocks

Give your morning coffee and newspaper a place to relax by repurposing an old wooden door into a new coffee table. First, sand down the wood to ensure that there are no rough

areas that may cause splinters or harm and then either paint or stain the wood. Next, salvage legs of the same length from old furniture, or make your own, and attach them to the bottom. Choose a rustic look by leaving it bare, or give it a sophisticated touch with the addition of a glass top.

Solve your window panes

Never forget to pick up groceries again by turning a plain window frame into a versatile cork board. Use double-sided

tape to fasten cork behind the window frame and mount it on a wall in your home. Use push pins to post notes, grocery lists and reminders as well as pictures to add a personal touch to your home. For additional convenience, consider adding a shelf to set down your house and car keys.

Stairway to spick and span

Organize your front hall area and impress your guests by showing off a new convenient

coat rack created from an old stairway banister. Simply coat the wood with a splash of paint, attach the banister to a sturdy stand, add some hooks, and you'll have a new home for coats and accessories.

Shutter the clutter

If your mail pile is mayhem, consider the shutter solution by converting wooden window shutters into a practical mail and letter holder. The shutter solution is a great way to give your home a pop of

Salvage Dawgs

- For more DIY ideas on salvaging old finds, tune into Salvage Dawgs, Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m. on DIY Network Canada.

colour or to experiment with stencilling for a unique design. Once you have decided on the design, mount the shutter to your desired area and watch the cluttered chaos disappear.

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Freshen up your home

Spring cleaning. Inject tranquility and save money and energy by adding window dressings

Channel all the new-found positive energy into your home this spring, as well as into yourself. Designer Sally Morse, the director of creative services for window fashions company, Hunter Douglas, offers her favourite spring decorating tips.

1 Declutter and organize: Kids' toys collecting dust? Overflowing closets? Take spring cleaning to the next level and organize your home now so you can spend the upcoming summer months outdoors where you really want to be.

Inject the tranquility of the spring season into your life by making your home not only more beautiful, but more organized as well. Remember the old adage — a

place for everything and everything in its place.

Next, don't let closet clutter intimidate you. Set aside a few hours when you won't feel rushed and take everything out, filling large, labelled trash bags with items destined for the dumpster — anything stained or beyond repair — and those that you want to give to charity and friends. Put foldables in bureaus and armoires.

2 Save energy and money. The ups and downs of spring can take a toll on electric bills, so make a change this year. The new Duette Architella Trielle honeycomb shade is a great energy-saving investment. With five insulating air pockets, it can help reduce heat loss through the



Duette Architella Trielle honeycomb shades from Hunter Douglas can help reduce heat loss through windows by up to 45 per cent. NEWS CANADA

window by up to 45 per cent and solar heat gain by up to 80 per cent.

You can also see if any of your light fixtures can use LED bulbs; they are ingenious and many are equipped with automatic turn-off, an easy energy saver.

3 Easily embrace the sun. Some of the best things about spring are the sunny

days we've been missing all winter. Make it a point to truly rise and shine this spring. You can do it with digital technology. Did you know that the Hunter Douglas Platinum App is the first shade control mobile app? And it is available as a free download with no service fees. With a quick tap on the screen, you can set your win-

dow coverings to raise or lower at pre-set times. Imagine waking up with ideal sunlight without having to leave the comfort of your bed — a perfect way to start the day.

4 Put a spring in your step. Take a cue from this cute saying and apply it to your home in creative, fun ways. Be they small — a new bed and bath linens or painting

the front door a cheery colour — or more lofty projects, such as installing new carpet or redecorating an entire room.

One quick way to enhance the appearance of any room, no matter the décor, is with window dressings, and there are a vast number from which to choose.

NEWS CANADA

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Basements. An inviting space to enjoy year round

After a winter of hibernation, spring is a perfect time to begin renovation projects that will impact your home's overall energy efficiency and save you money.

An unfinished basement can be a major source of energy loss, costing you more on your heating and cooling bills.

Finishing your basement is a renovation project that will keep your house cool in the coming summer months and reduce energy consumption. By simply finishing the space with wall and floor coverings, you will notice a difference on your energy bills. A renovated basement offers more than additional storage and living space. It can provide room for a growing family or a space where you can retreat for some privacy.

Insulation is a key component in making your basement look and feel comfortable, inviting and dry. For the best results, install a rigid board insulation against the concrete foundation before you stud the wall. The board is mechanically fastened



Insulation is a key component in making your basement look and feel comfortable, inviting and dry. NEWS CANADA

or adhered to the concrete foundation wall, preventing thermal bridging through the studs, offering a higher R-value and better thermal

performance. It will ensure your basement is not a source of energy loss, but rather an inviting space all year round.

NEWS CANADA

Infusion of Indian ingredients

Rib-eye Steak with Toasted Coriander Blue Cheese. The combination of exotic spices and jazzed up cheese is drool worthy

"When I ask for prime beef, my local butcher knows that it better have been dry-aged for at least 40 days," writes Bal Arneson in her book *Bal's Spice Kitchen*. "It is often difficult to find well-aged meat, but once you try it you will know exactly what I am talking about."

"Infused with the spices I chose for this recipe, this is a rare treat for your guests or just for you. I have cooked this several times just for myself and thoroughly enjoyed it with a

Ingredients

Steak Masala

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) cumin seeds
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fennel seeds
- 1 tsp (5 ml) brown mustard seeds
- 1 tsp (5 ml) black peppercorns
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) fenugreek leaves
- 1 tsp (15 ml) smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) red chili flakes
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- **Steak**
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) steak masala
- four 6 oz (175 g) dry-aged rib-eye steak (I prefer 1 1/2-inch/4 cm thick)

Toasted Coriander Blue Cheese

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) coriander seeds
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) blue cheese
- 1 tsp (5 ml) smoked paprika

Sautéed Asparagus

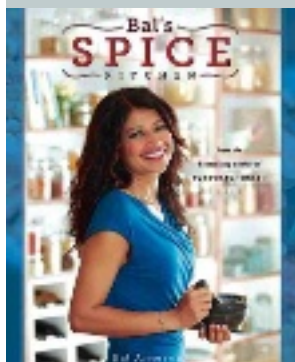
- 1 tbsp (5 ml) cooking oil
- 1 tbsp (5 ml) chopped garlic
- 1 lb (500 g) asparagus, hard ends removed
- salt and pepper to taste

Side. My Mother's Okra with Sautéed Tomatoes

1. For the okra: Make an incision down the middle of each okra from one end to the other. Thoroughly mix the spices and salt in a bowl. Place a pinch of

Cookbook of the Week

Spice up your life



The latest release from Bal Arneson, *Bal's Spice Kitchen*, has a two-fold premise: spice is the key to delicious cooking and making flavourful meals doesn't need to be time consuming.

Using traditional Indian recipes as her inspiration, Arneson shows chefs how to complement their favourite dishes with new spice combinations.

With a guide to creating your own spice mixtures, recipes include: Mango and Cardamom Soup, Mixed Lentils with Eggplant, Tandoori Baked Chicken and more. **METRO**

nice glass of red wine."

1. To make steak masala: In a skillet, toast the cumin seeds, fennel seeds, mustard seeds and peppercorns on medium-low heat until the spice aromas fill the air, about 30 seconds. Turn off the heat and let the pan cool. Process the spices in a spice grinder until coarsely ground, then add the fenu-



TOTAL TIME ABOUT 30 MINUTES

This recipe serves four to six. PHOTOS TRACEY KUSIEWICZ FOR BAL'S SPICE KITCHEN (WHITECAP, 2014)

greek leaves, paprika, chili flakes and salt, and give the grinder a quick spin.

2. Preheat the grill to medium-high. Sprinkle the steak masala on the steaks. Gently place the steaks on the heated grill and cook for about 3 to 5 minutes on each side for medium

steaks, or to your preferred doneness. Let them sit for a few minutes before serving.

3. To make the toasted coriander blue cheese: Toast the coriander seeds on low heat in a skillet for 30 seconds. Let them cool, then crush them with your hands. In a bowl,

thoroughly combine the coriander seeds, blue cheese and paprika.

4. To make the sautéed asparagus: In a saucepan, heat the oil on medium-high. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds. Add the asparagus and salt and pepper and cook, stirring fre-

quently, until the asparagus is tender, about 10 to 12 minutes.

5. To plate the dish: Place the asparagus on a plate. Slice the cooked steaks and crumble Toasted Coriander Blue Cheese on top.

RECIPES EXCERPTED FROM *BAL'S SPICE KITCHEN* (WHITECAP, 2014)

spice mixture in each okra.

2. Heat the oil in a large skillet on medium heat. Gently place the okra in the skillet and

Ingredients

Okra

- 1 lb (500 g) okra, washed, hard ends removed
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) ground coriander
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground turmeric
- 1 tsp (5 ml) smoked paprika
- 1 tsp (5 ml) salt

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) grapeseed oil

Sautéed Tomatoes

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) grapeseed oil
- 1 tsp (5 ml) cumin seeds
- two 19 oz (540 ml) cans chopped tomatoes (about 4 cups/1 L)
- salt and pepper to taste



This recipe serves four people.

cook, stirring frequently, until they are golden brown and soft, about 6 to 8 minutes. Set aside.

3. Heat the oil in a large skillet on medium heat. Add the cumin seeds and cook for 10 seconds. Add the tomatoes, salt

and pepper and turn down the heat to low. Cook until the tomatoes are softened, about 8 to 10 minutes.

4. Reheat the okra if necessary. Serve the okra and tomatoes with rice or rotis.

For your phone

Yummly (iPad, iPhone; free)



MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

This cuisine search engine will help you sift through online recipes by nutrition, season, diet, and cooking

time.

It notes the ones you keep and makes personal recommendations in response.





Canadian skip Rachel Homan heads down the sheet during a 10-3 win over Korea at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship in Saint John, N.B., on Wednesday. Homan also defeated Germany 7-5 on yesterday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homan enjoying the view from the top

Curling. Ottawa rink wins two more matches to enter the final day of round-robin atop standings

The skip's voice rasped and there was fatigue in her face.

Rachel Homan and her Ottawa Curling Club team were ready to put their feet up for an evening and a morning at the Ford World Women's Curl-

ing Championship after three straight wins, one of them a white-knuckler.

"Oh my god, so ready. I can't wait to not curl for 24 hours," Homan said Wednesday. "I feel like it's midnight, so it will be nice to get a break."

The Canadians arrived at a break in the schedule atop the standings at 8-1. Sweden's Margaretha Sigfridsson and Switzerland's Binia Feltscher met in an evening clash of 7-1 teams.

The Canadians reverted to their custom of both taking

the lead and finishing a game early in a 10-3 win over South Korea's Ji-sun Kim, who shook hands after eight ends.

But Canada went the distance in the morning draw. They stole three points over the final two ends to rescue a 7-5 win over Germany's Imogen Oona Lehmann.

That was the first time Homan threw her final stone at the world championship and just the second time Canada played a 10th end in Saint John.

They'd beaten Scotland the

previous evening and were back on the Harbour Station ice in the morning.

"It was a long haul, three games in a row on not much sleep and a big grind this morning against Germany," Homan said.

Homan, third Emma Miszkew, second Alison Kreviazuk and lead Lisa Weagle headed to dinner with family members feeling confident about their position. Canada concludes the round-robin Thursday against China and Sweden.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB spring training

Blue Jays pound Phillies despite Happ's woes

J.A. Happ offered more questions than answers Wednesday in another rocky outing for the Toronto Blue Jays.

The six-foot-five left-hander, pencilled in as one of Toronto's starters, lasted just 2 2/3 innings in an 11-6 Grapefruit League win over the Philadelphia Phillies.

It came one day after Ricky Romero had his own troubles against the Detroit Tigers. On Wednesday, the former Opening Day starter and fellow pitcher Marcus Stroman were sent to the Blue Jays' minor-league camp. THE CANADIAN PRESS

March Madness

Obama sides with Michigan State

President Barack Obama is picking Michigan State to win the NCAA men's basketball championship over defending champion Louisville. In what has become an annual March Madness tradition at the White House, Obama filled out a bracket in a segment broadcast on ESPN Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

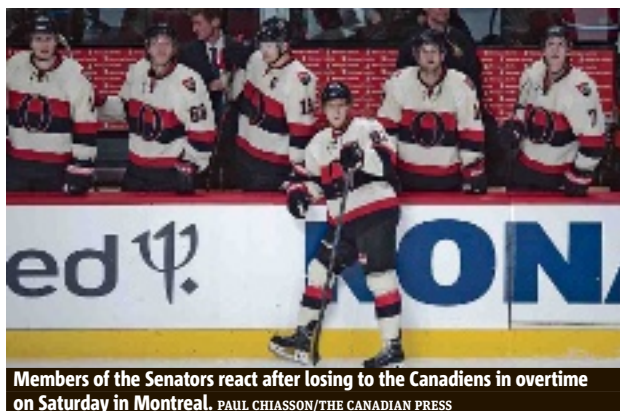
Champions League

Hats off to RVP and Man United

Robin van Persie scored a hat trick as Manchester United beat Olympiakos 3-0 on Wednesday to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Champions League, overturning a 2-0 deficit from the first leg.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'We're doing something wrong for sure'



Members of the Senators react after losing to the Canadiens in overtime on Saturday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Ottawa Senators can't seem to pinpoint what has caused their recent struggles during a slump that has likely taken them out of the mix for a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

With victories in just two of their last nine games, the Senators (28-27-13) were seven points behind Columbus with 14 games remaining.

Entering Wednesday night's games, the Blue Jackets held the final wild-card spot with 76 points. Ottawa would need to leapfrog several teams in order

Stringing wins together

4

The Sens' longest winning streak was a four-gamer in late December. They haven't won back-to-back games since Feb. 6.

to make the eight-team cut for the post-season in the East.

Things completely unravelled for the Senators on Tuesday night when they dropped an embarrassing 8-4 decision to the New York Ran-

gers on home ice.

"We're searching for answers," captain Jason Spezza said. "We don't know either. You come to the rink, you work and we're doing something wrong for sure."

Clarke MacArthur was blunt in his assessment of the team's current situation. "We put ourselves here first of all," he said. "You can't look outside of this room. We've set the stones here to the path we're on. If we don't want to compete then this is what's going to happen." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

The Sun moves into your sign today, so there can be no more excuses. You know what you want, you know how to get it and you know that if you make a genuine effort nothing can stop you. The world is yours.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart means you may tend to fear the worst over the next few days, but that is quite natural. How good or how bad you feel is really up to you alone.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There are so many positive influences for friendship at the moment that you would be a fool not to take advantage. If you need assistance in any way just open your mouth.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

If you want to move up in the world, it's time to get yourself noticed. It does not matter how much talent you have, what truly matters is that you have a clear goal in mind and that you go after it.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Nothing matters more than the truth and if you keep that in mind over the next few days, you won't go far wrong. The truth may at times be uncomfortable but that is not an excuse to ignore it.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

The Sun's change of signs means you need to change too. It also means you need to get rid of ideas you are comfortable with but which in are holding you back.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

There is no point trying to keep plans to yourself because loved ones and co-workers will find out about them. You have nothing to hide, so let them know what you are up to.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

It is one thing to be a hard worker but another to waste time and energy on tasks that mean nothing to you. Your aim today must be to decide what is important to you and what should be trashed.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The Sun's move into your fellow Fire sign of Aries endows you with the kind of self-belief that moves mountains. There is a world out there waiting to be impressed by your brilliance.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You don't need to explain why you are doing certain things. Others will respect you more if you are confident about following your dreams. Don't complain. Don't explain. Don't apologize. Just act.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

The Sun moves in your favour today, making it easy to get your own way. Does that fill your head with ideas? It should, and each one of those ideas is entirely legitimate.

Pisces

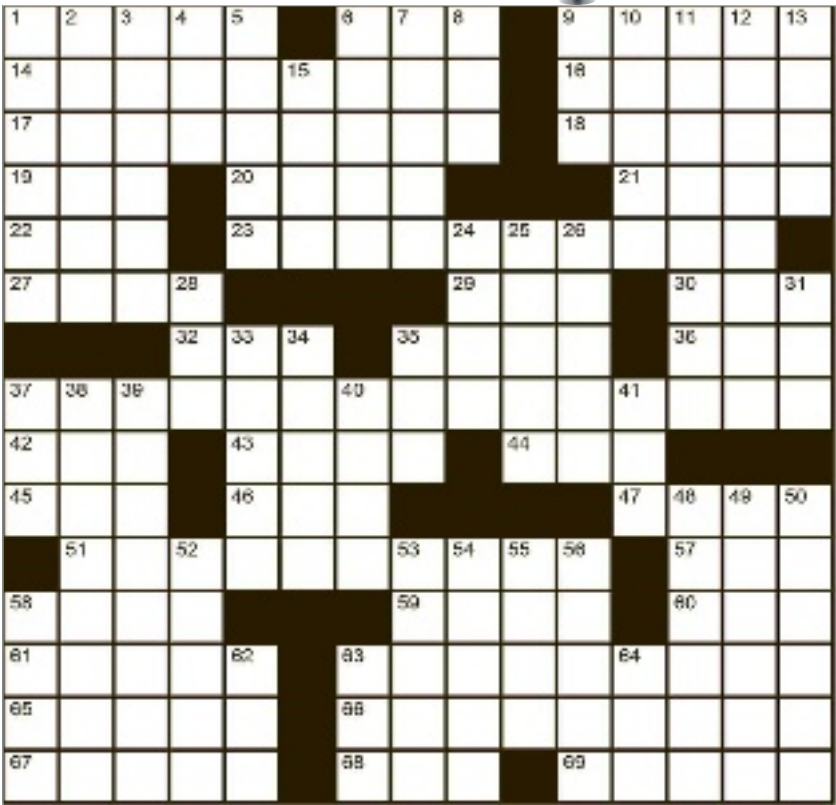
Feb. 20 - March 20

There is not much point trying to appeal to someone's common sense when they are hell bent on following a course of action that is irrational. Let them get on with it and make sure you keep a safe distance between you. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- Some citrus fruits
- Food grain
- 2250 the old way
- Spring, in Sherbrooke
- Family band from Lakefield, ON
- Yukon's official tree, __ Fir
- Hell's master
- 'Speed' suffix
- Strauss' Tausend und __ Nacht
- Positioned horizontally
- Nero's 551
- Mid-coast of BC community, 'Home of the Rain People': 2 wds.
- Gas station
- Pot
- Belief system
- Ms. Thurman
- During
- Hide __ hair
- Corb Lund and the __
- __locka, Florida
- Increases
- Picture
- Puny paranormal power
- Jersey's call
- Hic, __, hoc
- Nova Scotia town
- Sight: French
- Ancient colonnade
- Decorative case
- "Michael Collins" (1996) org.
- Maison's entrance
- Distinctions



- "Our Father which __ heaven..."
- Craigellachie, BC: Where the Canadian Pacific Railway's ceremonial __ was driven into the track in 1885
- Do more lawn work

- Tropical cuckoo
- Set of three

Down

- Advantage
- Porridges
- Ex __ (Book label)
- Once __ lifetime
- 'The Great' canonized pope, __, __

- GNR's "Sweet Child ' __ "
- Sleep __
- Blood-sucker, when doubled
- Real estate database, commonly
- AC/DC's "You Shook __ Night Long"

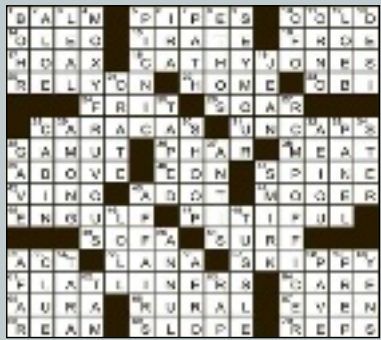
- Type of salad dressing
- "Beat This Heart" by Tim __ feat. Serena Ryder
- Actress, Jamie-__ Sigler
- Grand
- Unfeeling
- Restaurant side

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

- order
- Outkast member, __ 3000
- Away
- " __, Doubtfire" (1993)
- Florida locale
- Sometimes, Off __
- Montreal football players, to fans
- Horticulturist's helper
- American shipping company that has franchises in Canada, The __
- Camaraderies
- What Snoopy is, __
- Word with Beatles ...how it's commonly mis-typed
- "Addicted to You" Swedish DJ/producer
- "I get it now!"
- Discontinued
- Mathematical proportion
- Macho guy
- " __ " (Posh "Here's me!")
- Theatre great, Alfred __
- "Villain, thou __..." - Shakespeare
- Box
- Stop
- Old music high note
- American airer since '71

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Know what the weather will be 14 days from now. Check the 14 day trend.

TWIN incorporates MSC data

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43,533 km • Auto
Stk: # 35543

\$119 weekly

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**2008
BMW
X3 3.0 SI**

AWD • 3.0L 6 cyl
\$17,850
112,682 km • Auto
Stk: # 14261-A

\$106 weekly

2010 Hyundai Santa Fe GL

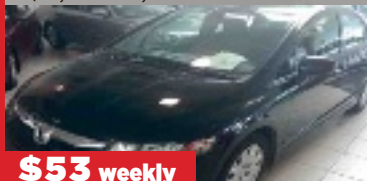
\$14,980 • 112,675 km • Stk: # 34217



\$73 weekly

2010 Honda Civic

\$10,980 • 73,694 km • Stk: # 35596



\$53 weekly

2011 Mitsubishi Lancer DE

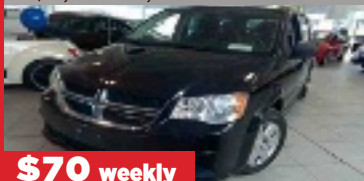
\$10,760 • 58,672 km • Stk: # 35319-A



\$44 weekly

2012 Dodge Gr Caravan

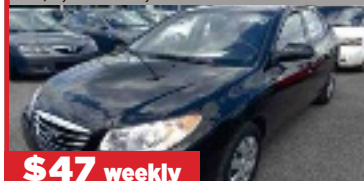
\$16,980 • 56,321 km • Stk: # 35318



\$70 weekly

2010 Hyundai Elantra

\$9,670 • 50,848 km • Stk: # 35051



\$47 weekly

2013 Nissan Pathfinder S

\$29,960 • 6,453 km • Stk: # 35381 USA



\$124 weekly

2011 Mercedes-Benz B200

\$16,780 • 63,952 km • Stk: # 35624



\$69 weekly

2009 Ford Ranger SPORT

\$12,830 • 38,218 km • Stk: # 35493



\$62 weekly

2011 Ford Fiesta SE

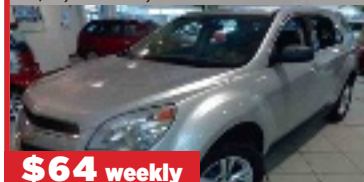
\$9,870 • 91,687 km • Stk: # 35182



\$41 weekly

2011 Chevrolet Equinox LS

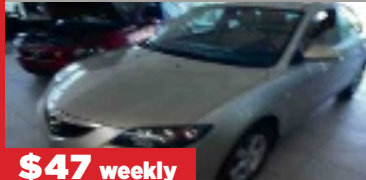
\$15,630 • 83,565 km • Stk: # 35544



\$64 weekly

2008 Mazda 3

\$7,950 • 79,603 km • Stk: # 33485



\$47 weekly

2011 Hyundai Accent

\$9,980 • 42,913 km • Stk: # 12187-A



\$41 weekly

2010 Mini Cooper

\$14,970 • 31,207 km • Stk: # 35080



\$89 weekly

2011 Ford F-150 XL

\$15,970 • 25,130 km • Stk: # 35598



\$66 weekly

2012 Mazda 2 SPORT

\$10,680 • 18,895 km • Stk: # 35514



\$44 weekly

2012 Nissan Versa

\$10,980 • 83,172 km • Stk: # 35400



\$46 weekly

2012 Hyundai Sonata

\$15,950 • 55,189 km • Stk: # 35188



\$66 weekly

2009 Nissan Rogue

\$12,950 • 69,092 km • Stk: # 32612-A



\$63 weekly

2010 Mitsubishi Outlander

\$13,680 • 76,088 km • Stk: # 35525



\$66 weekly

2011 Ford Ranger SPORT

\$17,880 • 39,390 km • Stk: # 35508



\$74 weekly

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